

GRAPEVINE

March 18, 2020

"The Pastor's Page"

Things have certainly changed since our last newsletter! We have suspended public worship until after Easter, but we are doing a streamed service each Sunday at 10AM. Almost every group in the church has canceled face-to-face meetings, although a growing number of on-line meetings are taking place. The South Carolina mission trip is postponed until September and South Dakota mission trip has been canceled.

As Christians, we remember God's promises at this time. God still rules the earth as God has done from the beginning of time. And God is with us in all our difficult times. And, we remember our responsibility to love our neighbor as ourselves. That includes doing everything in our power to keep from spreading the virus, as well as reaching out to those who are sick or isolated during this time.

Let's also remember to pray for each other, for our governmental authorities who are making difficult decisions, and for our church leaders who also face unprecedented challenges.

Pastor Dave

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Happy Birthday to...

April 1

Ryan Dudash
Matthew Johnson

April 2

Lynne Graziano
Sarah Haffey
Ian Isherwood

Susan Kint

April 3

Benjamin Soliday

April 4

Jacqueline Pizzuto
Savannah Soliday
Dick Wisor

April 6

Hatty Ketterman
Amy Suarez

April 7

Kristin Russo
Alexis Stone

April 8

Brian Breighner

April 9

Carol Geist
Susan Lindsay
Dorothy Oblack

April 10

Eric Maitland

April 11

Sal Chandon

April 12

Julie Kint
Susan Pizzuto

April 13

Ethan Burgess
Dale Gallon

Kathleen Redding

Drusilla Warner

April 14

Jerry Heeschen

April 16

Jared Lochary

Amy Stewart

Judy Temme

April 17

John Gazmen
Andy Miner

April 18

Richard Heflin
Ava Mathews

April 19

Michael Beegle

April 20

Madison Brubaker
Betty Kump

April 21

Mike Franek

April 22

Mary Shuss

Lance Snyder

Marilyn Zanger

April 23

Suzanne Bower

Blake Bowman

Lucas Delacruz

Melanie Keller

April 24

Henry Fernandes
Frank Pizzuto
Amy Tomassini

April 25

Isabella Fernandes

Brandy Mosser

John Reber

April 26

Judy Bullis

April 27

Margo Har
Charlotte King

Holly Stabler

Julio Suarez

April 28

Katherine FitzGerald

Brayden Lush

Shelli Strausner

Tammi Swartzbaugh

Dolores Yakencheck

April 29

Lawrence Sanders

April 30

Josie Brownley

Amira Reed



Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with George Marguglio on the recent death of his cousin.

Mission Prayer List

On Sunday mornings we will be praying for the following people/groups that we support.

Please consider including them in your own prayers!

3/29

Ben & Emily Okello

Ben & Emily are in Kenya overseeing an orphanage with many children. Ben also plants churches throughout Kenya.

4/5

Clean Water Project Chiapas, Mexico.

Funded by our Capital Campaign Mission component, a well and water purification system is managed by a church in Hidalgo.

4/12

Adams County Rescue Mission

ARM works with men struggling with substance Abuse, runs a thrift store, and a recycling ministry.

“Calendar of Giving”

The Calendar of Giving is an opportunity for our congregation to support numerous local organizations. Through this program, we identify local organizations that are in need of smaller donations. Each month, we will be collecting specific items for the identified organization.

For the month of:

March

We will be collecting items for

SPCA

Cat and dog food; clay cat litter; pet toys; cat and dog treats; 55 gallon drawstring trash bags; disinfectant wipes; water softener.



Pam Phillips RN FCN
410-596-0777

Our Walk to Jerusalem continues. Together we traveled a total of 7503 miles to arrive in Jerusalem on March 8th. Our goal now is to arrive back at Gettysburg by April 5th. Take this time to walk, exercise at home, and collect those “miles”. You can email me at Oceancity1958@comcast.net or gpcfcn@gettysburgpresbyterian.org to send me your weekly miles. I will continue to keep track and update you as to where our journeys have taken us. Keep moving!

How can you help decrease the spread of the Coronavirus

- “Social distancing” or deliberately distancing yourself and others to avoid spreading illness by staying at least 6 feet away to decrease spreading of the virus. Social distancing is not disconnecting!
- Continue to wash your hands with soap and water (while saying the Lord’s prayer, 20 second rule)
- Use hand sanitizer with *at least* 60% alcohol if no soap and water available.
- Avoid touching your face
- Clean frequently used items including your phones, computers, IPAD, remotes, tables, counter-tops, doorknobs, steering wheels, etc. with disinfectant
- Do not bring items in (Groceries, Mail, purse, etc.) and “plop” them down on the counter without using a disinfectant afterwards
- Leave your shoes at the entrance way of your home

Reminder:

This is a time for Christians to shine with their faith! If you are like me, I need to hear some *positive* thoughts these days. You too can help spread good news. Now is the time to “sparkle” as a Christian showing your faith through your small acts to others, offering words of encouragement, and lending a hand to your neighbor. We as a church can continue to *reach out* to others even though the “doors” are closed. *Share* some of these key scriptures with your family, friends, neighbors.

Scriptures to provide comfort: 2 Timothy 1:7, Matthew 18:20, Isaiah 26:3, Philippians 4:6-7, Psalm 103:2-4, James 4:8, John 16:33, John 14:27, Luke 12:25-26

Consider what you have read by thinking it through and mediating on it.

Franklin Graham once wrote in his book, *Living Beyond the Limits*, “Fear cannot take hold unless it is fed”. The same is true today. Center our lives on Christ and keeping the focus on HIM can calm our anxieties.

Philippians 4: 6 says “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God”

Daily Suggestions: Who can I check in on or connect with today? What am I grateful for today? What can I do outside today? Look for the beauty of each day (take a picture and send to Rev. Lou)

AED (Automated External Defibrillator) Update: We now have 1 set of *Child and Infant* pads along with *Adult* pads in the AED (Automated External Defibrillator) located outside the sanctuary door entrance. The 2nd floor AED contains Adult pads only currently.

As always, please call me if I can be of service to you, my GPC family. Grace and peace to you all.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

For 70 years, Presbyterians have joined with other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to provide resources to people experiencing need. Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The gifts of One Great Hour of Sharing support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, food for the hungry, and community development. They help give people safety, sustenance, and hope. [For more info and a world map showing where help is given, visit <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/oghs.html>]

To participate, consider making a special offering by Palm Sunday, April 5th, 2020.

(Please mail your check to the church and make it out to GPC and put "OGHS" in memo line.)

Try using the calendar below to guide your giving, and point out the everyday items we often take for granted. One Great Hour of Sharing is the church saying "We'll be there when you need us." **If we all do a little, it adds up to a LOT!**

Sun 3/22/20	Mon 3/23/20	Tues 3/24/20	Wed 3/25/20	Thurs 3/26/20	Fri 3/27/20	Sat 3/28/20
After a natural disaster, it may be hard to find places to cook or buy food. Say a prayer of thanksgiving, and give a gift for each meal your family ate today.	Climate change is forcing farmers worldwide to either change their farming methods or move away. Give a gift for each animal you saw today.	Social barriers are like locked doors that hold people back and keep them from thriving. Give a gift for every door that can lock in your home.	Read Isaiah 58:6-8 and reflect on: What are we asked to do? God's love is shown in many ways. Discuss three things you could each do tomorrow to share God's love.	The youngest, most vulnerable are often the most impacted in emergency situations. Say a prayer for children impacted by disasters, and give a gift for every flashlight in your home.	In Oregon, a bicycle program gives hope for youth and the planet by teaching teens how to maintain and repair them. Give a gift for every bicycle or eco-friendly vehicle your family has.	Visit the OGHS interactive map at https://tinyurl.com/t6vbumd . Pray for 10 or more locations where Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is serving. Give gifts for each.
Sun 3/29/20	Mon 3/30/20	Tues 3/31/20	Wed 4/1/20	Thurs 4/2/20	Fri 4/3/20	Sat 4/4/20
Where does your water come from? Many people carry buckets of water long distances to their homes every day. Give a gift for every faucet in your home.	In Baltimore, teens find hope as they get help selling things they make, like T-shirts, so they can stay off the street and away from violence. Give a gift for every T-shirt members of your family wore last week.	Blankets are used internationally to comfort those impacted by disasters. Give a gift for each blanket in your home and/or find some blankets your family could donate.	Sometimes people need help advocating for their rights - like lawyers fighting for those impacted by uranium mining in New Mexico. Say a prayer for those who advocate for the poor.	In Papaye, Haiti, hope is seen in the leaves of the moringa tree: a superfood that can help many hungry people! Give a gift for every tree near your home.	Tutors can help people prepare for school and get jobs. Those jobs provide income for families who might otherwise struggle. Give a gift for your favorite teacher and say a prayer of thanks for them.	Clean water is a precious resource all over the world. Find some ways you can conserve or use less water every day and commit to doing at least one for a month or more. Give a gift for every glass of water you had today.

Daily Closing Prayer: God, open our eyes so we can see the many blessings you've given us.

Open them more to move us to share, so each of God's children can feel love and care.

You promise to protect us and take care of us, so even if things get bad, we can trust in you.

Give faith to all who have doubts today, so they can know peace in You. Amen.

Mexico Mission Trip Applications Available Now

On our one-week trip to Mexico's Yucatan peninsula we will:

- Do some construction for a village church (no skill required!)
- Run a Vacation Bible School for village children
- Run a reading glasses clinic
- Fellowship and worship with our Mexican brothers and sisters in Christ
- See some Mayan ruins



At this point we are still planning to go to Mexico on July 6-13. We'll need to make a final decision about the trip in mid-May.

Applications are located in Fellowship Hall and the narthex. Contact Pastor Dave for more details.

Church Women United

With much regret but with safety in mind, the CWU Board members have made the executive decision to cancel the upcoming April 1 meeting & luncheon to be held at the Gettysburg Church of the Brethren. We will plan on meeting on Wednesday, May 6, unless further changes occur due to taking precautions against the spread of the coronavirus.

Prayers for health & safety as we continue to deal with the coronavirus.

**Men's Interfaith
Luncheon
has been
cancelled
until May 6th**

News Flash

Along with daily media news updates here is one from the South Carolina Mission Trip Committee

The annual (for at least the last 15 years) trip to Charleston, SC for a Habitat for Humanity build has been moved 6 months to Sept. 27 – Oct 3, 2020. With all the concerns about Coronavirus, it is felt that everything should be back to "normal" and I am told that Fall in SC is beautiful. Please check your schedules and let me know if you are interested.

Jerry Cleaver – 717-359-0419.



Scheduler needed: The Salvation Army is looking for a volunteer to schedule the ringers for the annual red kettle campaign. The job can be done from home, and takes roughly thirty to ninety minutes per day, from mid-October through December. Duties include responding to phone calls, texts and emails from those interested in volunteering, maintaining the daily schedule of ringers, and coordinating regularly with other members of the kettle campaign team. A good telephone manner, and comfort using text, email, and word processing programs is important.

For more information, contact Mary Smith, 717-968-4602 or mjsmith2@aol.com.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church Mission Statement

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church believes that God calls us to invite people to faith in Jesus Christ, and equip them to grow as His fully devoted followers. As disciples we:

- * study regularly
- * pray daily
- * witness boldly
- * live faithfully
- * serve passionately
- * give generously
- * worship weekly

 **Next Newsletter Deadline:
Noon, Thursday April 2, 2020**

**EFFECTIVE
Monday,
March 23rd
the church office
will be CLOSED.**

**If you need to contact a
member of staff, call the
church office number
and your call will be
forwarded to our
administrative assistant.**

**We will do our best to get
you what you need.
Be safe.**

**March / April 2020
GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE
WORSHIP 10:00 a.m.**

Public worship has been cancelled.

**We will have a 10:00 a.m. service
streamed live each Sunday.**

**www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org
Click "New Streaming Link" on
the top right hand corner**